

E2  
E1  
Cant  
complex formed from purified recombinant HCV single or specific oligomeric recombinant E1 or E2 proteins; and optionally a pharmaceutically acceptable adjuvant.

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E  
62. (Amended) A method of treating a mammal infected with HCV comprising administering an effective amount of a composition according to any one of claims 57-61 and 64 [59-61] and, optionally, a pharmaceutically acceptable adjuvant.

Add the following claim.

E4  
--64. A therapeutic composition for inducing HCV-specific antibodies comprising a therapeutic effective amount of a composition comprising at least one purified recombinant HCV single or specific oligomeric recombinant envelope protein selected from the group consisting of an E1 protein and an E2 protein; and optionally a pharmaceutically acceptable adjuvant.--

### REMARKS

Reconsideration is requested.

Entry of the above amendments and the Amendment of June 26, 2000, are requested.

Claims 49, 50, 51, 53 and 55-64 are pending.

Support for the amendments may be found, for example, at page 1, lines 12-18, and pages 11 and 25, of the specification. No new matter has been added.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the Section 112, first paragraph rejection of claims 49-51, 53 and 55-56, are requested. The applicants again submit that the present application is enabling for the claimed invention. The applicants have successfully rebutted any doubt raised

by the Examiner's previous reliance on Farci (1997) by submission of a number of references which establish that one of ordinary skill in the art would have had a reasonable expectation of making and using the claimed invention.

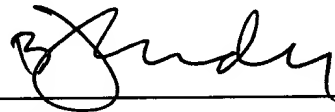
In view of the above and previously submitted arguments and evidence, the claims are submitted to be supported by an enabling disclosure. Withdrawal of the Section 112, first paragraph, rejection of claims 49-51, 53 and 55-56 is requested, along with a Notice of Allowance.

In the event the claims continue to be rejected, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned for the purpose of conducting an interview prior to the Examiner's next Action.

Respectfully submitted,

**NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.**

By: \_\_\_\_\_



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